

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents research background, research problems, research objective, scope and limitation, research significance, and definition of the key terms used in the thesis.

### **1.1 Research Background**

Literature is a creation of humankind that has aesthetics and artistic sides. At the beginning, literature was spreading verbally, such as folk. And nowadays literature has come also in written form and then it was visualized as in drama. Klarer (1998:0) explains the parts of three major literary genres; these are fiction (prose), drama and poetry. These three genres of literature are applicable until now.

Today, we can find much kind of prose works, such as novel, short story, play-scripts and many others. However, prose itself has to divide into two branches; they are fiction and nonfictional prose. Fiction prose is kind of written literary work that provides imaginary story. The writers use interesting and amusing words with chronological order in order to entertain the readers. Meanwhile with nonfictional prose, it is a literary works that written based on reality. It provides real information. We can find nonfictional prose in diary, biography, autobiography, essay, documentary book and many others.

Autobiography is a work that tells story of a person's life which written by her or himself rather than being written by somebody else, with his or her own words. However, sometimes the writer may take guidance from a collaborator. Autobiography certainly contains objectively facts without editorializing or inserting fictional matter in the form of written (book). Autobiography can be found in a form of diary. (<https://literarydevices.net/autobiography/>)

Diary has become an outstanding thing since centuries ago and it becomes an addiction to some people until today. Some people find it more comfortable to write down their problems or just share story through diary. Anne Frank (1942) wrote down on her diary, "I hope I will be able to confide everything to you, as I have never been able to confide in anyone, and I hope you will be a great source of comfort and support". From that, can be stated that not all of people find themselves comfort to talk and share their feelings to each other. But somehow, some feel that they much more confident and feel more relieved if they share everything to their friends, not just wrote down their problems a piece of paper.

The researcher found one previous research that had studied about nearly the same topic. It is Suryandaru (2008) who had studied about children's maturity steps with using a song lyric as her concentration. The title of the research was *Children's Dream and Maturity Steps in White Lion's Song Lyric When the Children Cry*. The result of the research showed that the child in the song lyric experienced some bizarre things in his/her childhood adventure which reflected to the maturity steps. All the dilemmas and problems gave the child understanding about being mature and also brought another point of view that could change

someone's way of thinking. All the matters appealed the child's cognitive aspects to think more critically about what is happening surround him/her. And the child seemed have learnt so many things that can be applied in the world of maturity.

Cognitive alteration is an adjustment or a change in the way how people process information. Cognitive alteration could possibly occur to every single person who is consciously alive and has thoughts. It could be occurs in any occasion and in any age. Cognitive alteration usually happens to someone who apparently facing a hard time in his/her life that forced them to think critically and spontaneously about their surrounding for their sustainable existence in this world.

The Diary of a Young Girl is originally written in Germany by Anne Frank during her hiding in the Nazi occupation between 1942 until 1944. Her father, Otto H. Frank with the help of Germany publisher Mirjam Pressler, decided to publish Anne's diary after she died in fighting her illness in Bergen-Belsen, Nazi's concentration camp with more than 50.000 other Jews. Since its publication in 1947, it has been read by tens of millions of people all over the world.

The researcher interested to conduct a research about Anne Frank's cognitive alteration during her hiding in the Nazi occupation because the researcher thought that doing a research on an autobiography book (in this case is diary book) is a special privilege for the researcher herself since diary is a silent witness of someone's journey of life. In his recent book, Valentin Matcas, M.ED.(2015) said that "You cannot understand anything in life at a higher level if

you do not understand the human thoughts”. Even more, cognitive alteration is a highly rare topic which not many researchers use to conduct their research.

## **1.2 Research Problems**

Based on the research background stated above, the researcher formulates the statement of the problems as follows:

1. Why did Anne Frank experience cognitive alteration during her hiding in the Nazi occupation?
2. How did Anne Frank’s cognitive alteration give impact to the people around her?
3. How did Anne Frank cope with her cognitive alteration?

## **1.3 Research Objective**

Based on the statement of problems above, this study has the objectives as follows:

1. To find out the causes of Anne Frank’s cognitive alteration during her hiding in the Nazi occupation
2. To identify the impact of Anne Frank’s cognitive alteration to the people around her
3. To describe Anne Frank’s way to cope with her cognitive alteration

## **1.4 Scope and Limitation**

The focus of this research is the autobiography book, which is diary book that written by Anne Frank during her hiding in the Nazi occupation.

Meanwhile, the limitation of this study is only on Anne Frank's cognitive alteration that she experienced during her hiding at the secret flat called Secret Annex in the Nazi occupation.

### **1.5 Research Significance**

The result of this study has significance for generally, the audience who would like to get more knowledge about the other side of the Diary of a Young Girl, Anne Frank.

Specifically, the researcher hopes that this thesis would be highly rewarding for English Department students, especially for those who want to conduct research with the same theme as this research. The researcher also expected that this would be valuable for the English Department lecturers, especially for literature lecturers to support them to conduct their class by using this research as a teaching-learning media.

### **1.6 Definition of Key Terms**

To avoid misunderstanding, there are several key terms that must be clarified.

1. Literature refers to as the entirety of written expression, with the restriction that not every written documents can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense of the world (Klarer, 2004:1).
2. Prose is ordinary writing works (both fiction and nonfiction) as distinguished from verse (*The Establishment of Modern English Prose*, 1998).

3. Non-fiction is a complex information text (Connie Mattheissen, 2015)
4. Cognitive alteration is an occurrence of changing in mental processes that includes attention, memory, producing, and understanding language, solving problems and making decisions
5. Nazi occupation refers to the World War II, specialized between Netherland and Germany
6. Anne Frank is the girl who experienced the changes and also the author (writer) of the book (originally: diary)

